

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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News Release

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State Genetics Task Force meets on genetic discrimination

Monday, February 25, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Phoenix Inn, 417 Capital Way N, Olympia, Wash.

Olympia—The Washington State Genetics Tack Force will convene its second meeting February 25, 2002 at the Phoenix Inn in Olympia, Washington. A primary purpose of this meeting is to hear testimony and other evidence from any member of the public on examples of genetic discrimination. The Washington State Board of Health convened the task force at the direction of the Legislature to explore the issue of genetics and privacy.

Anyone wishing to testify may do so by attending the meeting, by sending e-mail to wsboh@doh.wa.gov, by completing an on-line form available at http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/ Meetings/online.htm, or by contacting the WSBOH office at (360) 236-4101. Please specify that your testimony is intended for the Genetics Task Force. Instructions on testifying are available at http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/Meetings/guide.htm.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health or by visiting the board's Web site at http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh/priorities/gentics.htm.

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The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the board's Web site at www.doh.wa.gov/sboh.